IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A transparent glazing with a field of view that can be darkened over a portion of its surface by electrically controlling at least one functional element incorporated into a multilayer composite, the light transmission of which glazing can be varied reversibly, in which portion the functional element, comprises:

at least one electrochromic functional layer enclosed between two surface electrodes,

wherein each surface electrode of the functional element, and leads corresponding thereto, are matched and spatially spaced relative to the other surface electrode such that darkening starts at one edge of the functional element and, with a continuously-applied voltage applied between the surface electrodes, propagates continuously over the surface of the functional element until the functional element is completely and uniformly colored.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein at least one of the surface electrodes is connected to at least one connection conductor having a low ohmic resistance, which conductor is parallel to and is placed close to a lateral edge of the functional element.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein at least one of the surface electrodes includes a left and right connection conductor respectively placed on a left and right side of the functional element, the left and right connection conductors being of low ohmic resistance, each of the left and right connection conductors being operable to receive electrical potentials via external leads independently of the other of the left and right connection conductor.

Claim 22 (Original): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein the functional element extends along one side of the glazing and, from the one side, into the field of view of the glazing, the darkening of which field of view starts in the region of the one side.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 21, wherein the left connection conductor is placed near the left side of the glazing in a region between a boundary located in the field of view and a left edge of the glazing and the right connection conductor is placed on the right side of the functional element in a region between a boundary located in the field of view and a right edge of the glazing.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 23, wherein the right connection conductor, which is in the field of view of the glazing, is in a form of at least one thin metal wire.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein the functional element extends from a top side of the glazing and between a front and rear side, in which glazing one of the two surface electrodes is brought into electrical contact at an outer surface of the glazing from at least one surface of the front and rear sides, one of the front side and the rear side forming a substrate for the functional element.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 25, wherein the surface electrode remote from the ~~substrate~~ electrochromic funcational layer is electrically connected to at least one lead lying at an edge of the glazing by at least one thin

metal wire extending over a surface of the functional element that lies in a field of view of the glazing.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein the surface electrode closest to the electrochromic functional layer is in a form of a substantially complete coating of the glazing, the functional element is formed only over a portion of the coating such that lateral bands not covered by the functional element are formed on at least two sides of the glazing forming an angle therebetween, the lateral bands of the surface electrode are electrically isolated from one another, and connection conductors, one of which is electrically connected to the surface electrode closest to the electrochromic functional layer and the other of which is electrically connected to the surface electrode furthest from the electrochromic functional layer of the functional element, are provided on each of the lateral bands.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein the two surface electrodes have different surface resistances.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 28, wherein the surface electrode closest to the electrochromic functional layer has a lower surface resistance than the surface electrode furthest from the electrochromic functional layer.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 28, wherein the surface resistance of the surface electrode closest to the electrochromic functional layer lies within a range from 0.01 to 100 ohms per unit area and wherein the

surface resistance of the surface electrode furthest from the electrochromic functional layer is about 10 times these values.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19, wherein an opaque edge frame extends over at least a portion of a perimeter of the glazing along the edge of the glazing, and wherein electrical leads for the surface electrodes are placed on the surface of this edge frame.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The use of transparent glazing as claimed in claim 19 as a windshield for a vehicle, in which the functional element is an all-solid-state electrochromic multilayer system placed, as an electrically controllable sunshield, in a region of a top edge in a mounted state.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A method for controlling a functional element in an all-solid-state electrochromic surface element in a transparent glazing unit, which all-solid-state surface element includes a functional layer that can be reversibly decolored electrochromically, the method comprising:

introducing, between two surface electrodes, an electrical potential to force an electrochromic change of color on one side of the electrochromic surface element, a direction of propagation of a change of color of the electrochromic surface element being controlled by an increase in an electrical potential on a surface of one surface electrode relative to the other surface electrode,

wherein each of the two surface electrodes has a different surface resistance and a rate of increase of the electrical potential depends on the surface resistance of each of the two surface electrodes.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein at least one supply lead for electrical potentials causing the electrochromic color change is provided on at least one of the surface electrodes on either side of the all-solid-state electrochromic surface element.

Claim 35 (Presently Presented): The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein a first effective potential is applied via a first supply lead for a surface electrode relative to the other surface electrode to induce a coloration in a predetermined direction of propagation of the color change, and wherein a second effective potential, of reverse polarity, is applied via a second supply lead for a surface electrode relative to the other surface electrode to produce decoloration in a predetermined direction of propagation of the color change.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 33, in an application for controlling an electrochromic functional element incorporated as a sunshield in a windshield of a vehicle.